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The Slave's Dream.

Up2comes4

Beside the ungathered rice he lay, his sickle in his hand;
His breast was bare, his matted hair was buried in the sand.
Again, in the mist & shadows of sleep, he saw his native land,
And through the landscape of his dreams, the boldy Niger ²
 flowed;
Beneath the palm trees on the plain once more a high estate
And heard the tinkling caravans ³ descend the mountain road.
Before him, like a blood-red flag, no bright flamingoes ⁴ glow,
From morn till night, he followed their flight, o'er
 the plains where the tamarind ⁵ grew,
Till he saw the woods of Capparis, & the ocean rose to
view.

At night he heard the lion roar, & the hyena scream,
And the river-horse, as he cracked the reeds behind some
 hidden stream;
And it passed like a florid roll of drums, through
 the triumph of his dream.

The Jaws
He did not feel the driver's whip, nor the burning
heat of day;
For death had illuminated the land of sleep, & his
 lifeless body lay
A worm-eat ⁶ shelter that the soul had broken and drawn
 away.

Song follow.

a. Niger. A great river flowing through the part of Africa over the slaves had once been kept.

b. Caravans. Companies of merchants travelling together for safety.

c. Flamingoes. A large bird of a bright scarlet colour,
 with very long necks & legs.

d. Tamarind. A tree which bears delicious fruit.

e. Capparis. An African nation.

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I have much hope that if the book be
advertised & reviewed in educational
papers, & brought under the notice of
Principals of Eng. Colleges, &c. it may
yet answer my original purpose -
that something more than the dry
bones of geography should be taught
in schools. My idea was, to prepare
a series of readers which children
for themselves, ~~but also~~ as it is, the
print necessary price of this book
would be prohibitive - but I believe
teachers would be glad to consult
it in preparing their geography lessons.
It is not easy to find suitable
information drawn ~~together~~ in
a handy form, as I have ascertained
that the need for ~~books~~ ^{something} of the kind is
very much felt in all classes of
primary schools.

is now to work among us to
teach them of our proceedings
I like the style of the specimen page
very much.